



Be part of a book: Exploring multilingualism, religion and spirituality in Australia

What are **your** experiences in the connections between your languages, religion and spirituality? What does learning and using the language mean to you? How do you use it? What extra understandings come from knowing the language? Is there a religious or spiritual dimension to the language? Does that change your life? What is the future of the language?

We want to include your voice, your language and your community in a new book. This is the first book to explore the relationships between languages, religions and spirituality in the Australian landscape, through community contributions. We welcome stories of both community and liturgical languages, accounts of language teaching and learning connected to a spiritual context, and stories of the relationship between the teaching of Indigenous languages and Indigenous spirituality.

How to participate

Stage 1. Please send us a short description of your contribution, length approximately 300 words (2-3 paragraphs). Due Date: **15 September 2020**. We will use these paragraphs to compile a book proposal and secure a contract with a publisher. robyn.moloney@mq.edu.au
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Stage 2. We will then ask you to write your extended submission, ideally 2000+ words, due in February 2021. We also welcome shorter pieces, say 1-2 pages. We will make collections of shorter pieces into chapters of different voices.

The questions below may provide further ideas for your writing. Choose relevant topics.

Suggested questions

1. What language(s) do you use or understand, in your religious practice / spirituality? What role(s) does that language have? Please give some short examples of the language, with translation, and why these are significant. How has it shaped your identity or sense of belonging to that community? Images can be included if desired
2. How would you describe the relationship between your languages, your religious practice/ spirituality, and your everyday life?
3. Has your community made choices in language use? Is this a source of tension?
4. What are the goals of teaching or learning a language connected to a spiritual context?
5. In your community, are there connections between language and contribution to social justice issues, and/or social harmony?

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